

~~shall be filed in the office of the State Auditor, the Secretary of State, and Attorney General in accordance with G.S. 93B-2."~~

SECTION 3. G.S. 93D-5 reads as rewritten:

"(a) No person shall begin the fitting and selling of hearing aids in this State unless the person has been issued a license by the Board or is an apprentice working under the supervision of a licensee. Except as hereinafter provided, each applicant for a license shall pay a fee set by the Board, not to exceed ~~one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00)~~, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), which fee may be prorated by the Board, and shall show to the satisfaction of the Board that the applicant:

- (1) Is a person of good moral ~~character~~, character.
- (2) Is 18 years of age or ~~older~~, older.
- (3) Has an education equivalent to a four-year course in an accredited high ~~school~~, school.
- (4) ~~Is free of contagious or infectious disease.~~

(b) Except as hereinafter provided, no license shall be issued to a person until he has successfully passed a qualifying examination administered by the Board.

(c) No license shall be issued to any person until ~~he~~ the person has served as an apprentice as set forth in G.S. 93D-9 for a period of at least one year; provided, that this subsection shall not apply to those persons qualified under G.S. 93D-6 nor to those persons holding ~~masters degrees~~ a license in Audiology issued by the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Speech and Language Pathologist and Audiologist who have undergone 250 hours of supervised activity fitting and selling hearing aids under the direct supervision of a licensed hearing aid ~~dealer-dispenser~~ approved by the Board, or have met the licensure requirements under Article 22 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and have worked full time for one year fitting and selling hearing aids in the office of and under the direct supervision of an otolaryngologist and have participated in 250 hours of Board-supervised, continuing professional education in fitting hearing aids."

SECTION 4. G.S. 93D-11 reads as rewritten:

"§ 93D-11. Annual fees; failure to pay; expiration of license; occupational instruction courses.

Every licensed person who engages in the fitting and selling of hearing aids shall pay to the Board an annual license renewal fee in an amount set by the Board, not to exceed ~~one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00)~~. Such two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). The payment shall be made prior to the first day of April in each year. In case of default in payment the license shall expire 30 days after notice by the secretary-treasurer to the last known address of the licensee by registered ~~mail~~, mail, certified mail, or in a manner provided by G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4(j)(1)d. The Board may reinstate an expired license upon the showing of good cause for late payment of fees, upon payment of said fees within 60 days after expiration of the license, and upon the further payment of a late penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). After 60 days after the expiration date, the Board may reinstate the license for good cause shown upon application for reinstatement and payment of a late penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and the renewal fee. The Board may require all licensees to successfully attend and complete a course or courses of occupational instruction funded, conducted or approved or sponsored by the Board on an annual basis as a condition to any license renewal and evidence of satisfactory attendance and completion of any such course or courses shall be provided the Board by the licensee."

SECTION 5. G.S. 93D-13 reads as rewritten: